

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



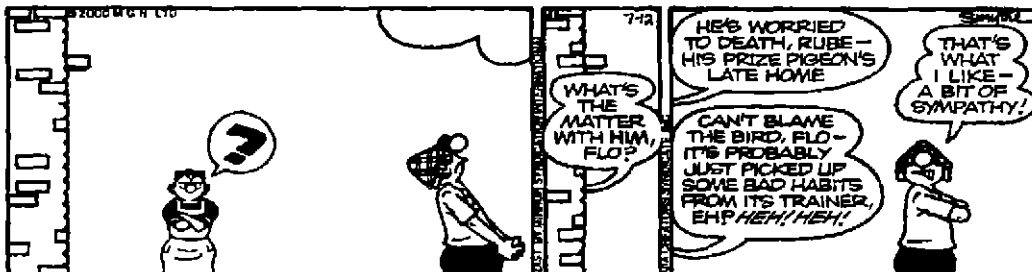
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



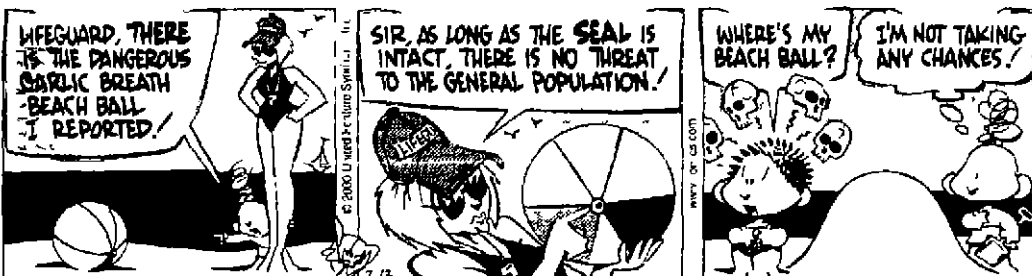
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



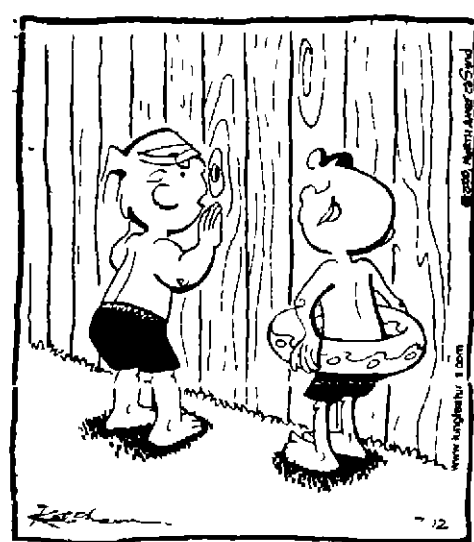
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



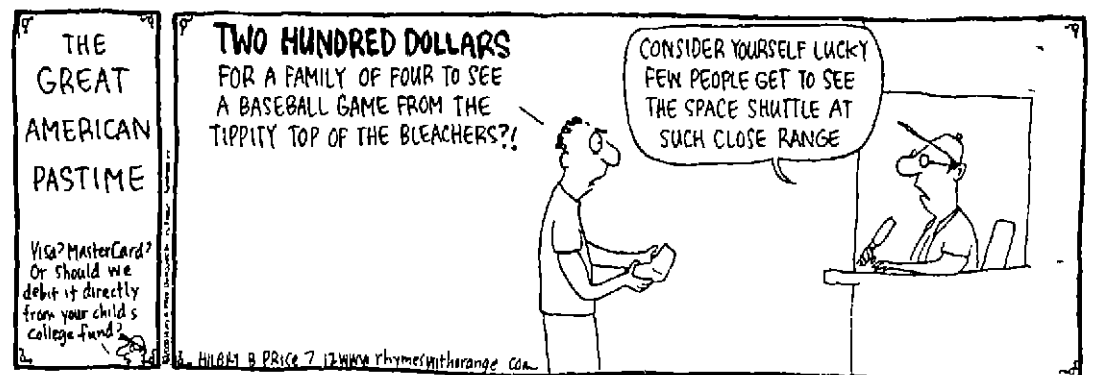
DENNIS THE MENACE



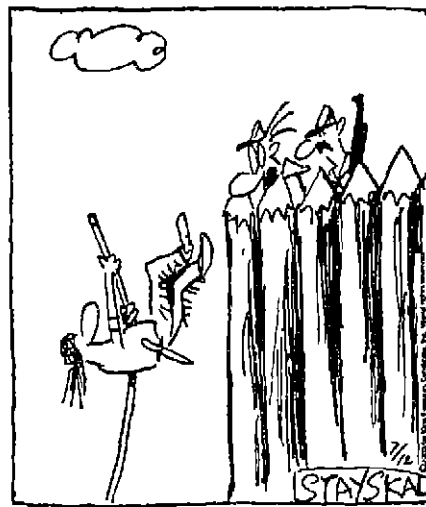
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Comedian Milton Berle is 92 Artist Andrew Wyeth is 83 Movie director Monte Hellman is 68 Pianist Van Cliburn is 66 Comedian Bill Cosby is 63 Singer-musician Christine McVie is 57 Actress Denise Nicholas is 56 Singer-songwriter Butch Hancock is 55 Fitness guru Richard Simmons is 52 Actor Jay Thomas is 52 Singer Walter Egan is 52 Actress Cheryl Ladd is 49

I NEED HELP



The infamous reign of gladiator promoter Don Caesar.

SCRABBLE

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PAR SCORE 110-120

by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 7 to 7 letter word from the letters in each rack. Add points of each word using scoring of each rack. The rack with the most points is the winner. Bonus: Bonus words used as any letter have no point value. All letters are worth 1 point. Double letters are worth 2 points. Triple letters are worth 3 points. Official Scrabble Words (Chambers) JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 7/12/00

For solution, see Classified

HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, July 13

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You have an aggressive hunger for new knowledge

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) For once following your impulses is not the best idea

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Your feelings about a relationship will affect the course that it takes

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You are feeling sluggish and stagnant and will not tolerate fools gladly

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Whatever you desire is well within your reach

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Obligations won't disappear just because you turn a blind eye

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Just because work is making you crazy is no reason to totally neglect a loved one

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You might think it's all a game, but someone else is playing for high stakes

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't take on more than you can handle

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) By seeing the best in a bad situation, you will be able to set important changes in motion

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) People will let you have your way because you're simply too charming to resist

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) The more people who are listening, the better, as you are finally ready to share your dream

WORD SLEUTH

SUMMER—

G O L I F C Z W T Q N K I F C
Z W F U R P M J H M E C Z X U
S Q L N L P J G E O C Z X V E
T T O R P N E L J N H E C A C
Y A U L W V T E R T P N L K I
I G N E Y C B Z L H X W U S T
R P D A O M M L O S J D I K S
G E E T G Y P U O A D O C B L
A Y R M A E S I H U X O A W O
U T S D I E R Q C Q T W M P S
O N L K J T H H S S E R P Y C

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Wednesday's unlisted clue: **LONGEST DAY OF THE YEAR**

Camp	Heat	School	Tanager
Cypress	House	Sleep	Time
Day	Months	Squash	Wood
Flounder	Olympics	Squash	Wood

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For solution, see Classified.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

In a duplicate game, North is usually the declarer of the no-trump game. After opening two clubs, North rebid two no-trump to promise a balanced or semi-balanced hand of 22-24 HCP. After a spade lead from East, the normal result was one down. Against traditional bidders, South became declarer after North opened a strong two-bid in his long suit (a stretch). West led a heart. South ducked in dummy, and East's king won. East returned a heart, and the rest was easy. South knocked out the diamond ace and claimed nine winners. Which defender was to blame? It wasn't West; it was East. Lacking mirrors, West could not be faulted for his opening lead. Ironically, it gave his side a chance to score a top. After East wins his heart king, the heart suit is not important. The diamond ace is. If South has it, South will score nine or 10 tricks. If West has it, East is a favorite to beat the game. At trick two, he shifts to a low spade, allowing dummy to win a trick. And when West wins his diamond ace, another spade lead gives the defenders six tricks and a top score.

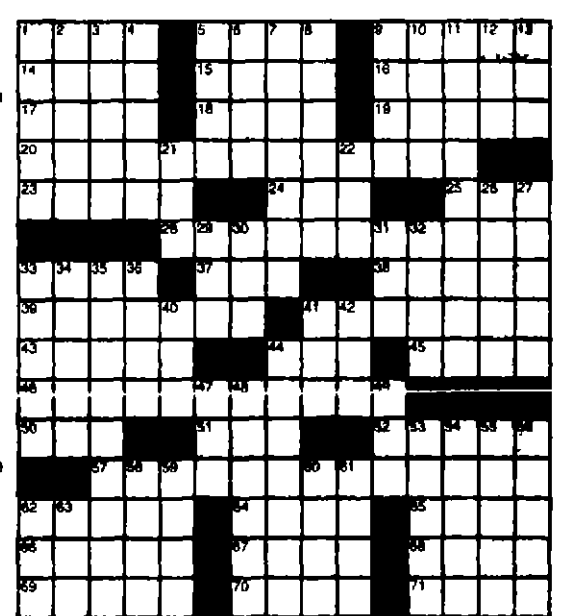
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0531

- ACROSS**
- Frolic
 - Asian expanse
 - 92 campaign issue
 - Mideast bigwig
 - Israeli foreign minister during the Yom Kippur War
 - Kind of organizer
 - Neighbor of Guinea
 - Let
 - Movie for which Ernest Borgnine won an Oscar
 - Prefix with fuel
 - Cautionary reply #1
 - Tucker who sang "Strong Enough to Bend"
 - NHL div.
 - Cable giant, for short
 - With 46-Across, cautionary reply #2
 - Some deli orders briefly
 - Driller's org
 - "Glad" setting
 - Nukes say
 - Daddy-os
 - Provinces
 - 1901 novel set in India
 - Some trills from Sills
 - See 28-Across
 - Prefix with fuel
 - Confident solver's tool
 - Act badly
 - Cautionary reply #3
 - On one's guard
 - Pond dweller
 - Man
 - From the top
 - Gustaf Lofgren
 - Jazz musician Jackson
 - Evasive
 - Complainer's state
 - Son of Hera
- DOWN**
- Invoice word
 - D-Day beach
 - La Scala locale
 - Outhouse
 - Disease cause
 - You will (hypnotist's phrase)
 - Bit of gang attire
 - Fully
 - All tingly
 - Sol class
 - Someone on a mountain may be in this
 - Little one
 - "...luck?"
 - Have
 - Maximum Abbr
 - Meter leader
 - Take ... sign
 - See 21-Across
 - NFL gains
 - Cane's sound
 - Sighting in the North Pacific
 - Donkeys cnes
 - "Bad" Brown
 - Zombies collectively

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

100L GOBS PALED
NOPE LARK ABOVE
TWENTYFOURSEVEN
RED ACS LOTTERY
ALSACE SLO
HOMO IRON NOOSE
EVERYNOWANDTHEN
HAREE NINO TORT
OLDSAW SARGE
PAINTER ATE RHO
ONCEINABLUemoon
OCHER BOAR ADEE
PAYNE YARN REDD



Puzzle by M. Franklin Vento

- 38 Purposely burn
- 40 Silvery-gray
- 41 One of a matching set
- 42 It'll never get off the ground
- 44 "thirtysomething" co-star
- 47 Choose
- 48 Popular pie filling
- 49 Carass
- 50 "Oh" ("Wow")
- 54 Studio sign
- 55 Honoric
- 56 Les ... Uns
- 58 Photocopier's need
- 59 Part of a Manhattan address Abbr
- 60 ... fruit
- 61 Boss Tweed's cancellist
- 62 Rev
- 63 It may need a boost

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5636 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS